OS&RPC Meeting Minutes #4 on 3.4.2020

A meeting of the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee (OS&RPC) for 2020 was held on 04 March 2020 in the Heald Room, Town Hall, Carlisle, Massachusetts. The meeting was called to order at 3:25 pm by David Freedman, Chair. Present were Committee Members Debby Geltner, Steve Hinton, Rhonda Michaud, and Amy Smack. Absent were Marc Lamere, Sally Zielinski, and Mary Zoll. Also present was Sylvia Willard, Conservation Administrator, Town of Carlisle.

Minutes of the previous meeting as amended were approved unanimously.

David asked Sylvia to post the ranking sessions scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, at 7pm in the Clark Room, and Tuesday, March 24, at 7pm in the Heald Room, as OS&RPC meetings. The next meeting after the ranking sessions was scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 3:15. Sylvia will reserve the Heald Room if it is available.

Materials to be provided at the ranking sessions were briefly reviewed. David and Steve will finalize the maps showing currently protected open space and the unprotected parcels to be ranked. David will coordinate with Steve re: BioMap 2 and the 2011 CAPS (Conservation Assessment and Prioritization System) IEI (Index of Ecological Integrity) maps that will be used to determine rankings for Core Habitat. Steve will print out the large ranking sheets that will be filled out during the two sessions. Debby confirmed that the description of the ranking criteria will be available at the sessions. David suggested that a few copies of the revised Appendix A be available, with possibly an enlarged copy as well.

David asked for suggestions for refreshments (snacks/water). Sylvia will take care of this and may ask for assistance from other committee members.

David reported that he had received 13 of the 21 requested 7-year Action Plans. The groups yet to provide them are: Board of Health, ConsCom, Selectmen, Council on Aging, Affordable Housing Trust, Youth Commission, School Committee, and Great Brook Farm State Park. Amy will follow up with Youth Commission and the School Committee. Sylvia will follow up with John Aziz of GBFSP. Upon receipt of each plan, David does a review and, as appropriate, suggests revisions for clarity. He is awaiting responses on a few of these suggested edits.

Sylvia reported that she and Debby and others had met with 4 of the 6 neighboring towns, with the final two scheduled for tomorrow (Thursday 03/05). Debby has been taking notes and will write them up, review with Sylvia, and then send them to David.

David reported that Sally had provided him with an update on her work. She is coordinating a large group of volunteer experts on various topics related to flora and fauna and the parts in Section 4 related thereto. Helen Lyons has volunteered to write up the Honey Bee and Pollinator decline section with input provided by Debby and David and with support expected from various local insect experts. David reported that Tony Mariano will provide information on Radon to include in the soils and geology section. David asked Sylvia to look at several parts of Section 4 related to Water Resources, Forest Land and Wildlife Corridors. Rhonda volunteered to look into state listings of water bodies designated as "impaired" and to find a definition for the term.

David responded to questions from Debby and Rhonda re: their work on Section 5 and confirmed that they are also looking at parcel-related Tables and will update them. Sylvia will confirm that she has the Assessors' printout of parcels in Chapter 61 and will share it with Debby and Rhonda. David asked that they cross-reference the printout with the 2013 list to confirm that all differences are consistent with general knowledge about what has been removed from (or added to) Chapter 61 protection. Debby asked Sylvia to ask ConsCom to look at their regulations re: consistency with the OPDMDs.

Sylvia will coordinate with the new person at GMNWR, who will be at an upcoming Conservation Coffee, regarding updating text related to the federal land under her care.

David asked Amy to review the Accessibility Table (11) with Holly re: Recreation facilities (and to fill out the Self-assessment forms) and for Sylvia to review for Conservation properties (also to do the self-assessments), noting that we need to be sure that the list of properties in Table 11 from 2013 is complete with regard to need for accessibility self-assessment.

David reminded everyone that the Master Plan community meeting was this evening. He asked those planning to attend to note what may be said about Open Space and Recreation topics.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted, David Freedman